

depressible member from said unactuated condition to said actuated condition, said first membrane further providing an increasing return force urging said depressible member to said unactuated condition as an operator moves said depressible member from said unactuated condition to said actuated condition; and

a second membrane resisting movement of said depressible member to said actuated condition, said second membrane further providing an increasing return force to said depressible member as the operator moves said depressible member to said actuated condition;

said depressible member initially moving relative to said second membrane,

said first membrane initially resisting movement of said depressible member without said second membrane resisting movement of said depressible member, and thereafter said first membrane resisting movement of said depressible member simultaneously with said second membrane, said first and second membranes providing a tactile sensation to the operator due to a reduction in the combined return forces applied to said depressible member by said first and second membranes after said first and second membranes resist movement of said depressible member simultaneously.

3. (Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a depressible member having an unactuated condition and an actuated condition;

a first membrane connected with said depressible member, said first membrane resisting movement of said depressible member from said unactuated condition to said actuated condition, said first membrane further providing an increasing return force urging said depressible member to said unactuated condition as an operator moves said depressible member from said unactuated condition to said actuated condition;

a second membrane resisting movement of said depressible member to said actuated condition, said second membrane further providing an increasing return force to said depressible member as the operator moves said depressible member to said actuated condition; and

a third membrane enclosing said first and said second membranes;

said first membrane initially acting alone and then acting simultaneously with said second membrane and providing a tactile sensation to the operator due to a reduction in the combined return forces applied to said depressible member by said first and second membranes.

---

Please add new claims 8-12, as follows:

8. The apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said depressible member is spaced apart from said second membrane when said depressible member is in said unactuated condition.

9. The apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said second membrane is spaced apart from said depressible member while said first membrane is initially resisting movement of said depressible member.

10. The apparatus as defined in claim 1 wherein said first membrane is constructed integrally with said depressible member.

11. An apparatus comprising:  
a depressible member being movable from an unactuated condition to an actuated condition;  
a first membrane connected with said depressible member, said first membrane resisting movement of said depressible member from said unactuated condition to said actuated condition, said first membrane further providing an increasing return force urging said depressible member to said unactuated condition as an operator moves said depressible member from said unactuated condition to said actuated condition; and

a second membrane resisting movement of said depressible member to said actuated condition, said second membrane further providing an increasing return force to said depressible member as the operator moves said depressible member to said actuated condition;

said first membrane and said second membrane providing a tactile sensation to the operator due to a

reduction in the combined return forces applied to said depressible member by said first and second membranes,

said first membrane being movable to a first condition wherein said first membrane resists movement of said depressible member, said second membrane not resisting movement of said depressible member when said first membrane is moved to said first condition,

said first membrane being movable to a second condition wherein said first membrane resists movement of said depressible member, said second membrane resisting movement of said depressible member when said first membrane is moved to said second condition.

12. The apparatus as defined in claim 11 wherein said first membrane and said second membrane are spaced apart in both said unactuated condition and said actuated condition.